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13 September 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, EE Division

SUBJECT: Meeting with Cassowary II in New York, Wednesday,
12 September 1951.

1. I spent approximately two hours with Cassowary II on Wednesday, 12 September 1951, from approximately 11:45 AM to 1:25 PM. This meeting was shorter than had been anticipated owing to the fact that my plane was considerably delayed because of weather conditions.

2. At seven o'clock the morning of the 12th, I received a telephone call from ~~IC~~ ¹ with a brief resumé of a message which had been received the evening before from Munich concerning a letter which Cassowary III had just received from the Inside. I repeated the gist of this message to Cassowary II, together with the gist of a recent message which had arrived from London and which reported on a message received by one of the British teams recently infiltrated.

3. Cassowary II did not seem particularly surprised at the evident seriousness of the situation Inside. He found it hard to believe the statement in one of the messages that in some Raions there is no underground organization. We discussed questions arising from this situation for perhaps half an hour. Cassowary II stated that in his opinion it would be well for us to continue to suggest that we send in supplies either at the end of this month or in October - always provided that we would not be endangering the lives of those Inside. The point he kept making was the desirability for us to stress our constant readiness to send in such supplies as might be necessary, to show a desire to do anything that the Inside might want, and particularly to be ready at all times even though present indications are that not much more can be done this year.

4. The remainder of our discussion concerned the Ukrainian emigration. To my question regarding what progress he had made in his thinking regarding this question, Cassowary II reported that Revitsky, a high official of the UNR, is expected in the United States in October and that Cassowary II is hopeful that one result of this visit may be to bring about a coordination between UHVR and UNR. He was hopeful also that the visit would produce an agreement between the Canadian and the American Ukrainian Congresses which are now split on several issues.

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5. Cassowary II said that so far as he was concerned he would welcome an agreement with UNR but it seemed to me that he felt little responsibility for taking any positive action himself in bringing it about. His attitude seemed to be that inasmuch as Cassowary III had brought about the conditions for an agreement in conversations with Revitsky, there was little that he, Cassowary II, needed to do.

6. I asked Cassowary II whether he had made any effort to resolve the conflict between UHVR and the Melnek group, which conflict had most recently appeared in the form of newspaper attacks on him and Cassowary III by officials of the Melnek group in Winnipeg. Cassowary II replied that on reconsidering he felt that these attacks were so unfair that he could not be bothered lowering himself to try to understand the reason for them.

7. In closing the meeting, Cassowary II stated that Dobriansky either has conferred, or is about to confer, with Kenneth Hambley concerning the formation of a committee for the non-Russian peoples of the Soviet Union to make sure that their interests are articulated and not subordinated to those of the Russian peoples as they are afraid will be the case from the formation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. I made no comment on this statement, and I have carefully avoided expressing any opinion regarding this suggested political move. I have only gone so far as to point out that if the Ukrainians believe their interests are unlikely to receive adequate consideration, it is up to them to take steps which will assure an understanding of their case.

8. In conclusion, the meeting was extremely friendly. Cassowary II is no longer hesitant about expressing his opinions. He appears to be relaxed and confident of our good intentions. Under the very severe restrictions that pertain in the homeland, there was little which could have come up at the meeting of a positive nature. Another meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 23, here in Washington.

M.V.P.

Chief, EE Plans

ME/HVP/lms

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